(iv) Home Secretary should be assisted by two Staff Officers for timely attention to and pursuit of important matters;

(v) A separate Department of Border Management may be created under the overall charge of the Home Secretary. It should monitor, coordinate and oversee border management.

A detailed proposal covering the above mentioned recommendations has been worked out. Pending sanction of additional officers and staff for implementing the recommendations of the Group of Ministries, two new divisions, namely, Border Management, Policy Planning and Intelligence Processing Divisions have been created in the Ministry by giving additional charge to some officers and providing minimum skeletal staff through internal adjustment.

Setting guidelines for holding international conferences

340. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has issued a circular setting guidelines for holding international conferences in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the participants have to obtain clearance from both Home Ministry and the External Affairs Ministry for their participation;

(c) if so, the details of such a circular; and

(d) the reasons for issuing such a circular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. The existing guidelines govering this matter were revised on 1st September, 2000 in order to simplify and liberalize the procedure.

(b) No, Sir. Clearance is required from Ministry of Home

Affairs and Ministry of External Affairs only for those conferences, where the subject matter is of political, semi-political, communal or religious in nature or is related to human rights and/or the participants are from Afganistan, Bangladesh, China, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

(c) The guidelines specify the cases where the nodal/ administrative Ministry can grant clearance and those in respect of which it needs to consult Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of External Affairs before granting such clerances.

(d) This is on security consideration.

Terrorists activities in Jammu and Kashmir

341. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA:
SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir have increased since 7th October, 2001 after the U.S. started attacks on Taliban, if so, details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that after the U.S. attack on Taliban stracture, foreign mercenaries active in Jammu and Kashmir started leaving Jammu and Kashmir; and

(c) what further steps have been taken by Government of India to tackle this issue of cross-border terrorism, especially in the emerging situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) No, Sir. There has not been any perceptible change in the terrorist related violence in Jammu and Kashmir since 7th October, 2001.

(b) No such general movement of foreign mercenaries has taken place, though some infiltration and exfiltration of terrorist have been going on.

(c) To contain terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, the Government